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# Executive summary

## Note by the Secretariat

**Addendum**

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# II. Executive summary

## Lebanon

### 1. Introduction: Overview of the legal and institutional framework of Lebanon in the context of implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption

Lebanon deposited the instrument of ratification of the United Nations Convention against Corruption on 22 April 2009, and the Convention entered into force in the country on 22 May 2009. The Constitution establishes Lebanon as a parliamentary democratic republic. International treaties, ratified by the Lebanese parliament, are part of the domestic legal system and, according to article 2 of the Code of Civil Procedure, are given supremacy over the domestic laws.

Lebanon follows a mixed legal system of civil law based on the French civil code, Ottoman legal traditions and religious laws covering personal status, marriage, divorce and other family relations of the Islamic and Christian communities.

The Lebanese legal framework against corruption includes provisions from the Lebanese Criminal Code (LCC), the Criminal Procedure Law and Law No. 318 of 20 April 2001 (amended in 2003 and 2008) on the fight against money-laundering, the Civil Servants Regulations and the labour law.

The relevant anti-corruption bodies in Lebanon are the General Prosecution and the Central Inspection Body. There are, further, the Disciplinary Board, in charge of civil servants, the Judiciary Inspection for judges, and the Court of Account. Law No. 32 of 16 October 2008 extended the powers of the Special Investigation Commission (SIC), Lebanon's financial intelligence unit, which was first established by Law No. 318, to provide for its exclusive right to freeze bank accounts and lift bank secrecy pursuant to applicable conventions and laws on the fight against corruption.

### 2. Chapter III: Criminalization and law enforcement

### 2.1. Observations on the implementation of the articles under review

*Bribery and trading in influence (arts. 15, 16, 18 and 21)*

Lebanon criminalizes active bribery in article 353 LCC in conjunction with articles 351 and 352. Passive bribery is criminalized in articles 351 and 352 LCC. The meaning of "others" and "third persons" in articles 351 and 352 LCC include legal entities. In addition, article 355 LCC covers cases in which the offer or promise is declined and article 356 LCC covers cases of retroactive payments of a bribe.

As article 351 LCC relates to the performance of work and articles 352 and 355 LCC relate to delay or neglect of work, the active bribery of a public official in order to induce him to refrain from acting is sufficiently covered. The indirect commission of an act of bribery is not explicitly covered.

Bribery of foreign public officials and officials of public international organizations is not criminalized.

Lebanon does not criminalize active trading in influence. Passive trading in influence is criminalized in article 357 LCC, but the term "remuneration" includes only monetary advantages and does not cover the indirect commission of the act.

Bribery in the private sector is criminalized in article 354 LCC, which punishes the disclosure of secrets or information pertaining to the work of an employer or performing, or refraining from performing, an action with a view to inflict physical or mental damage to the employer or to the interests of the work. Although it was acknowledged that many cases could be covered under this provision, it is still narrower than article 21 (a) of the Convention.

*Embezzlement, abuse of functions and illicit enrichment (arts. 17, 19, 20 and 22)*

Embezzlement is criminalized in articles 359 to 362 LCC, article 60 of the Court of Account Law and article 191 of the Public Account Law. Further, articles 363 and 364 LCC regulate punishment for criminal offences of misappropriation and misuse of public funds. Articles 365 and 366 indicate the scope of public officials covered by these provisions.

Abuse of functions is regulated in detail in articles 350, 363, 364 and 371 to 377 LCC. Authorities further referred to article 357 LCC, which criminalizes cases where a public official would hire a family member. Depending on each case, such act could also be prosecuted as trading in influence.

Illicit enrichment is criminalized in the Law of 1999 with the basic duty for public officials to disclose the assets. The draft law is under consideration.

Embezzlement of property in the private sector is regulated in articles 670 to 673 LCC. Immovable assets can be covered under article 671 LCC.

*Money-laundering, concealment (arts. 23 and 24)*

Articles 1, 2 and 3 of Law No. 318 of 20 April 2001 define the predicate offences, money-laundering acts and punishment respectively, and these provisions sufficiently cover the requirements of article 23, paragraph 1 (a) and (b), of the Convention.

However, the law falls short of the requirement of article 23, paragraph 2 (a) and (b), considering the narrower list of predicate offences in its Article 1, which does not cover the illicit funds derived from Convention against Corruption offences, except in cases of embezzlement of public or private funds. The law also does not provide for jurisdiction over participatory acts to money-laundering committed outside of Lebanon, which is not in line with the requirements of article 23, paragraph 2 (c). The law does not have a provision that would preclude a conviction for self-laundering.

In regard to concealment, article 221 LCC criminalizes anyone who conceals or disposes of effects "owned by others", but it fails to criminalize the continued retention of a property, as a result of Convention against Corruption offences.

*Obstruction of justice (art. 25)*

In relation to article 25 (a), authorities referred to article 407 and 408 LCC, which punish false testimony in criminal procedures and before military and judiciary

authorities, article 573 LCC which criminalizes threats with the use of force and article 578 LCC, which establishes as a criminal offence inciting someone to give false testimony.

In relation to article 25 (b), authorities referred to article 379 LCC and article 381 LCC.

*Liability of legal persons (art. 26)*

Lebanese legislation fully complies with the requirements of this article.

Articles 108 to 111 LCC provide for civil and administrative punishment and article 210 LCC provides for the criminal responsibility of a legal entity. Article 210 also provides sanctions for legal entities for acts of their directors and managers, representatives and employees in addition to the general principle of criminalization of natural persons.

*Participation and attempt (art. 27)*

Articles 213, 219 and 220 of LCC regulate all acts of participation that are criminalized under this Convention. Further, the acts of instigation are criminalized in article 217 LCC. Article 257 LCC establishes the penalty of organizing the participation in a crime or managing the acts of participants.

Attempt, as an independent criminal offence, is regulated in article 200 LCC. Lebanon does not criminalize the preparation for an offence, unless the act of preparation represents a crime itself. Authorities cited article 335 LCC, which refers only to the complicity or conspiracy to commit a crime.

*Prosecution, adjudication and sanctions; cooperation with law enforcement authorities (arts. 30 and 37)*

In general, the sanctions applicable to persons who have committed corruption-related crimes appear to be sufficiently dissuasive. There are no sentencing guidelines; judges are free in the determination of the sanction, taking into consideration the punishment for particular crimes set forth in the LCC, the gravity of offences, circumstances of the case, the impact of the offence on public funds and any repetition of the crime.

The extent and scope of the immunities from prosecution for public officials appear limited, with possibilities to prosecute dependent upon approval. In regard to Members of Parliament the immunity applies only while Parliament is in session, and the prosecutor is required to obtain the permission from the relevant parliamentary committee. Outside parliamentary sessions, Members of Parliament do not enjoy immunity. Similarly, the Public Prosecution has to obtain the approval of the Administration prior to prosecution of civil servants if the crime arises out of his or her employment. Yet, article 13 of the Criminal Procedures Code provides public prosecution with powers to give such approval counter to any administrative or non-judiciary decisions or legislation.

The Lebanese legal system relies on mandatory prosecutions, and aggravated penalties contribute to the effectiveness of law enforcement measures. The discretionary legal powers in sanctioning persons for offences in accordance with

the Convention permit the imposition of other measures, e.g., disciplinary or administrative measures.

Release pending trial is allowed under the LCC and investigative judges can apply measures to ensure the presence of a person at a trial. Article 111 of the Summary Trial Law provides for sufficient range of these measures.

The terms and conditions on early release and parole of persons convicted of offences are adequately regulated in Law No. 463/2002 amended by the Law No. 183 of 2011. The amendments establish for which criminal offences early release is not allowed including financial crimes and money-laundering. The general terms for early release require at least half of the sentence to have been served, proper and good behaviour, the absence of danger for society and the prisoner's prospects of having a life outside of prison. The request is examined by a judge who makes the final proposal to the Tribunal; in cases where the early release is requested on medical grounds, the adequate medical reports will be adduced.

Disciplinary measures including transfer, reassignment and suspension both for civil servants and judges, are adequately regulated.

*Protection of witnesses and reporting persons (arts. 32 and 33)*

Lebanon does not have legislation on the protection of witnesses nor on the protection of reporting persons, although the civil sector has been promoting the concept and mechanisms through various online applications.

*Freezing, seizing and confiscation; bank secrecy (arts. 31 and 40)*

Articles 69 and 89 LCC recognize both object and value confiscation of assets resulting from, or used for committing a crime. Provisions also allow for confiscation of items that were destined to be used in offences.

As regards transformed or intermingled property, article 69 LCC and chapters on preventive and executive seizure in the Criminal Procedures Code appear sufficiently wide to capture these cases. Lebanese authorities also indicated articles 887-892 Civil Procedures Code that allow seizure at a value exceeding the limits of mixed interests.

Seized and confiscated assets are managed by SIC under article 8 of Law 318/2001 and by judicial authorities under the Criminal Procedures Code. When real estate is confiscated, a judge nominates a guardian who manages the property in accordance with a judge's decision, and adequate notification is entered in the real estate registry. Movables are seized under court supervision and bank accounts remain frozen without any disposition or management absent a court order.

Lebanon does not have in its legislation a requirement for an offender to demonstrate the lawful origin of alleged proceeds of crime or other property liable for confiscation. Bona fide third parties are protected in Lebanon under provisions of the Code of Obligations and Contracts.

Bank secrecy is regulated in the Bank Secrecy Law with strict confidentiality. In case there is a need to lift bank secrecy, SIC is the only entity empowered to lift bank secrecy and freeze accounts across the country if there is a suspicion of a money-laundering offence. These powers of the financial intelligence unit had been

expanded to include corruption offences (unique article of the Law 32/2008) and their decisions are executed without delays.

*Statute of limitations; criminal record (arts. 29 and 41)*

The statute of limitations is regulated in articles 162-168 LCC and article 10 of the Summary Trials Principles Law, which regulate a maximum period of limitations that amounts to 10 years in the case of a felony, 3 years in the case of a misdemeanour and 1 year in the case of a petty offence. Authorities underlined that any action to prosecute will suspend the period of limitations which will then start again.

The suspension of the statute of limitations is stipulated in article 2 of the Prescription Periods Suspension Law No. 50 of 1991 which refers to the suspension of the rights provided for in the civil and commercial administrative articles and article 168 LCC.

As regards criminal records, Lebanese authorities indicated that only in cases where bilateral agreements or treaties exist, it would be possible to use and obtain access to foreign criminal records. They referred to the successful, but limited cooperation with the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and Arab Councils of Ministers, on access and exchange of criminal records.

*Jurisdiction (art. 42)*

Lebanese legislation establishes jurisdiction over offences committed within the national territory (arts. 15, 16 and 17 LCC) and on board Lebanese vessels and airplanes. Exemptions to Lebanese jurisdiction are cited in article 18 LCC. However, the legislation does not regulate the concept of extraterritorial jurisdiction.

Article 20 LCC establishes jurisdiction over crimes committed by any Lebanese, whether he is a wrongdoer, instigator or an accomplice, in Lebanon or outside Lebanese territories. Furthermore, the term "... if he acquired the Lebanese nationality after committing the felony or misdemeanour" may cover "a stateless person who has his or her habitual residence in its territory", since such a fact constitutes a condition for obtaining the citizenship.

As regards extradition, article 30 LCC does not allow extradition of any individual to a foreign country, unless stipulated by provisions of law or by a treaty that has power of a law. Article 32 LCC prohibits extradition for crimes falling under Lebanese territorial and personal jurisdiction. In regard to requirements from article 42, paragraphs 3 and 4, it appears that in cases where article 34 LCC would apply it would not follow with due criminal procedures.

*Consequences of acts of corruption; compensation for damage (arts. 34 and 35)*

Article 142 of the Public Accounting Law establishes three levels of prohibition for legal persons violating the tendering procedure to participate in tenders: for three months, and for one year, or indefinitely in cases where the third violation was registered within five years.

Regarding compensation for damages, in addition to the general provisions in the Code of Obligations and Contracts that relate to compensation for damages

sustained by third persons out of contracts, articles 129, 132, 134 and 135 LCC provide for compensation, but fall short of requirements of article 35 of the Convention in that they relate to the performance and quality rather than acts of corruption.

Authorities also referred to the available procedure where a victim may apply directly to a prosecutor, or to the Court of Audit, which would review the request and, if allegations are found serious and warrant further investigation, would forward the request to the prosecutor. In addition, the Administrative Tribunal has a right to rescind a contract which is found to be based on fraudulent grounds.

*Specialized authorities and inter-agency coordination (arts. 36, 38 and 39)*

There is no centralized institution for combating corruption in Lebanon in terms of article 36 of the Convention. Competencies are divided among the General Prosecutor's Office, the Central Inspection (for civil servants), the Court of Account and Judicial Inspection, each of them having adequate independence and clear mandates in their respective legislations.

In addition, SIC, operating within the Central Bank of Lebanon, is a specialized body (financial intelligence unit) in charge of financial investigations, money-laundering and financing of terrorism. The Commission was established by Law No. 318 of 2001, amended in 2003 and 2008.

Cooperation between public institutions is regulated by their respective laws, giving them rights and powers to seek documents or request an investigation, but there is no obligation for public officials to report suspicion on corruption. Given the well-established cooperation, any complaint or a suspicion lodged with the prosecutor will be handled and duly forwarded to competent authorities.

The cooperation with the private sector is limited to potential money-laundering cases and suspicious transactions, by virtue of the Law No. 318 of 2001 and thus does not reach the requirements of the Convention.

### 2.2. Successes and good practices

With regard to the implementation of chapter III in Lebanon, the following may be highlighted:

- Well-regulated system of early release and parole.

### 2.3. Challenges in implementation

While noting considerable efforts of Lebanon to harmonize the domestic legal system with the Convention's criminalization and law enforcement provisions, the following steps could further strengthen existing anti-corruption measures:

- Ensure that the bribery provisions are also applied to cases of indirect commission of the act (art. 15);
- Criminalize the active form of bribery of foreign public officials and officials of public international organizations and consider criminalizing the passive form (art. 16);
- Consider enhancing the offence of bribery in the private sector (art. 21 (b));

- Consider criminalizing the active form of trading in influence and fully criminalizing the passive form (including by extending the term "remuneration" in article 357 LCC) (art. 18);
- Consider criminalizing illicit enrichment (art. 20);
- Expand the scope of predicate offences for the purpose of money-laundering (art. 23, para. 2 (a) and (b));
- Expand the jurisdiction over money-laundering cases if the participatory acts were committed outside jurisdiction of Lebanon (art. 23, para. 2 (c));
- Consider enhancing provisions on concealment by also criminalizing the continued retention of property [and by covering criminal proceeds not owned by another person] (art. 24);
- Take measures to adequately criminalize the use of physical force, threats or intimidation to induce false testimony or interfere with the giving of testimony or the production of evidence, and with the exercise of official duties by a justice or law enforcement official (art. 25);
- Consider regulating a proper and consolidated management of seized and confiscated assets (art. 31);
- Take appropriate measures to provide effective protection from potential retaliation or intimidation for witnesses and experts who give testimony concerning Convention offences and, as appropriate, for their relatives and other persons close to them, as well as for victims (art. 32);
- Consider adopting measures to ensure the protection of reporting persons (art. 33);
- Take measures to establish cooperation between national authorities and private sector to include all offences from the Convention;
- Continue efforts to ensure there are no unnecessary delays or obstacles in obtaining banking information, notably by taking measures to ensure lifting of bank secrecy in line with the Convention requirements (art. 40);
- Consider extending the jurisdiction provisions to include cases against Lebanese nationals outside Lebanese territory (extraterritorial jurisdiction) (art. 42, para. 2 (a)).

### 2.4. Technical assistance needs identified to improve implementation of the Convention

- Good practices/lessons learned, capacity-building assistance, and legislation drafting with regard to most articles of chapter III;
- Model legislation (art. 31).

## 3. Chapter IV: International cooperation

### 3.1. Observations on the implementation of the articles under review

*Extradition (art. 44)*

Extradition is provided for in the LCC. This Act allows for extradition if no bilateral or multilateral treaty is applicable. Lebanon has entered into 20 bilateral agreements on extradition and judicial cooperation and plans to conclude more. The country can also use the Convention against Corruption as a basis for extradition although no request based on the Convention has been received so far; the Secretary-General of the United Nations has not been notified in this regard. In the absence of a treaty, the LCC and reciprocity principle are applicable.

Dual criminality is required for an offence to be extraditable and the offence must be a felony or a misdemeanour, meaning punishable by at least one year of imprisonment (art. 33(1) LCC). Extradition agreements require one year or six months. All Convention offences that have been criminalized in Lebanon satisfy this requirement. However, not all mandatory and non-mandatory offences are criminalized.

According to article 34 LCC and agreements, extradition may be refused for political crimes or if the request appears to have a political purpose. Political crimes are crimes committed with a political motive, as well as "offences against public and individual political rights, unless the perpetrator was prompted by a selfish motive" (arts. 196-197 LCC). Further, "offences closely connected with political offences are deemed to be political offences, unless they constitute most serious felonies or attempted felonies in terms of morals and ordinary law, such as (...) aggravated theft". The LCC and agreements do not allow for the refusal of a request on the basis that it involves fiscal matters.

Simplified extradition proceedings with the consent of the person sought have only been regulated in agreements with Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic. Bilateral extradition agreements list the documents required to grant extradition based on prima facie evidence. Communication through diplomatic channels is allowed. The LCC does not comprise any such procedural regulations. No deadlines in regard to the processing of requests are established and the average time frame varies depending on the case.

Article 35 LCC and the agreements provide for provisional arrest issued by the Public Prosecutor after interrogating the person requested. Such arrest may be made on the basis of a provisional request containing evidence of the arrest warrant or conviction and with the formal extradition request to be made in a reasonable time (e.g., 40 days as foreseen in the agreement with Bulgaria). Provisional detention requests can be referred through INTERPOL.

Lebanon does not extradite its nationals (art. 32 LCC). The principle of *aut dedere aut judicare* is regulated in bilateral agreements but not in the LCC. If extradition for enforcing a sentence is refused because the person sought is a national, punitive measures can be taken.

Persons regarding whom extradition proceedings are being carried out enjoy the same rights and guarantees of fair treatment as provided for in the domestic laws of Lebanon. According to article 34 LCC, extradition shall be rejected if the request is

contrary to the Lebanese social system. The agreements specify that extradition should be rejected if there are significant reasons to believe that the person will be discriminated against for reasons related to gender, nationality, language or political convictions, or shall be subject to brutal or inhumane treatment or any actions that violate basic human rights.

The obligation to consult with the requesting State party is captured in bilateral agreements. If the information provided in a request is not enough, the requested party should request additional information. The LCC does not include such an obligation, but it was confirmed that it was done as a matter of practice.

*Transfer of sentenced persons; transfer of criminal proceedings (arts. 45 and 47)*

There are no provisions in the laws of Lebanon on the transfer of sentenced persons or criminal proceedings. Lebanon has entered into agreements with Cyprus, Egypt and Jordan on the transfer of persons who have been convicted and sentenced to imprisonment if the person agrees. Lebanon plans to enter into further agreements.

*Mutual legal assistance (art. 46)*

Lebanon has no law on the issue of mutual legal assistance (MLA). It can provide MLA based on a treaty and in the absence of a treaty on the basis of reciprocity. The country has signed several bilateral agreements, including with Italy, Tunisia, Greece and Bulgaria and is party to the Arab Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism. Lebanon has also used the Convention against Corruption as a legal basis for MLA.

In practice, absence of dual criminality is a ground for refusal of MLA with regard to coercive measures, even though not clearly regulated. Non-coercive measures can be taken even in the absence of double criminality. Article 7 of the agreement with Tunisia specifies that MLA requests could be rejected if their execution would not correspond with the legislation of the requested State or if they affect the sovereignty, security or public order of the country in which it has to be implemented. No other regulation or detailed list of measures exists on the matter in any agreement. This means by implication that generally all MLA requests for measures which are in line with the national laws should be agreed to and executed, also according to the special method requested.

In practice, Lebanon does not spontaneously transmit information without a request, although nothing in the law seems to preclude this. The bilateral agreement with Tunisia only foresees this in article 40 in regard to rulings issued by judicial authorities regarding felonies or misdemeanours committed by the citizens of the other country.

The Ministry of Justice is the central authority for MLA that will transmit requests to the Public Prosecutor or to the relevant national authority for execution. Requests are transmitted through diplomatic channels and are received in Arabic, of which the Secretary-General of the United Nations has not been notified. In urgent cases, requests may be submitted orally or by any other means, provided that these are followed up by a formal request. There are no specific deadlines in regard to the processing of requests and the average time frame varies depending on the nature of the request.

According to article 12 of the treaty with Tunisia, Lebanon can transfer arrested persons as witnesses to another State party, even if they do not give their informed consent. No further regulatory framework exists for such transfers, including regarding the receiving of credit for service of the sentence during this time.

The current laws do not provide for the possibility to use videoconferencing for the hearing of witnesses or experts, and the Convention has not been used directly in this regard. There is also no provision on the principle of speciality or specific requirement to keep information provided confidential.

Bilateral agreements provide for 30 days of safe conduct of persons giving testimony, whatever their nationality.

Ordinary costs of execution of MLA requests are assumed by Lebanon, except experts' fees.

*Law enforcement cooperation; joint investigations: special investigative techniques (arts. 48, 49 and 50)*

In practice, police-to-police cooperation with other countries takes place in particular through INTERPOL or informal contacts and is facilitated by the Office of the Internal Security Forces (ISF). The Convention against Corruption has not been used as a legal basis for law enforcement cooperation. So far, no exchange of personnel or posting of liaison officers has taken place. Further cooperation is facilitated through the Middle East and North Africa Financial Action Task Force.

Joint investigations with foreign law enforcement authorities have been done on a case-by-case basis, but not in relation to corruption offences. Lebanon has not concluded bilateral or multilateral agreements or arrangements to allow for their establishment.

Interception of telephone and other telecommunications is used as a special investigative technique (Law No. 140/1999 as amended by Law No. 158/2000). Controlled delivery operations have only been regulated by the Drug Trafficking Law.

### 3.2. Successes and good practices

Overall, the following points are regarded as successes and good practices in the framework of implementing chapter IV of the Convention:

- Lebanon's legal system offers a broad spectrum of options for extradition ranging from statutory to treaty-based extradition, use of the Convention and the reciprocity principle.

### 3.3. Challenges in implementation

To further strengthen international cooperation, it is recommended that Lebanon:

- Recognize all the Convention offences as being extraditable offences (art. 44, para. 1);
- Could grant the extradition of a person in the absence of dual criminality (art. 44, para. 2) and in regard to accessory extradition (art. 44, para. 3);

- Continue to ensure in the future that any crime established in accordance with the Convention is not considered or identified as a political offence (art. 44, para. 4);
- Inform the Secretary-General that the Convention will be accepted as a legal basis for extradition (art. 44, para. 6);
- Further endeavour to expedite extradition and to simplify evidentiary requirements (art. 44, para. 9);
- Further strengthen data collection and monitoring of the duration of extradition proceedings and MLA and refusals (art. 44, para. 9 and art. 46, para. 1);
- Establish in the LCC an obligation to submit cases for prosecution at the request of the State party seeking extradition when extradition requests are denied on the grounds of nationality (art. 44, para. 11) and provide for the possibility to enforce a foreign sentence if extradition is refused because the person sought is a national (art. 44, para. 13);
- Continue consulting with the requesting State to provide it with the opportunity to present its opinions and relevant information before extradition is refused and include this obligation in the LCC (art. 44, para. 1);
- Continue to ensure that all forms of MLA can be provided (art. 46, para. 3);
- Extend the possibility for spontaneous transmission of information (art. 46, para. 4) and specify regulations on keeping the information confidential upon request (art. 46, para. 5);
- Consider adopting measures to enable the provision of a wider scope of assistance in the absence of dual criminality (art. 46, para. 9 (c));
- Consider specifying the limited grounds for refusal and refusing MLA for coercive measures in the absence of dual criminality (art. 46, paras. 9 and 21);
- Establish a regulatory framework that should include a requirement for the consent of detained persons to be transferred (art. 46, paras. 10-12) for cases in which the direct application of the Convention is not possible;
- Notify the Secretary-General of the United Nations of its central authority for MLA (art. 46, para. 13); and the languages acceptable for MLA requests (art. 46, para. 14);
- Could permit hearings to take place by videoconference (art. 46, para. 18);
- Seek the consent of the requested State party prior to using information furnished by another State party for purposes other than those specified in the request (art. 46, para. 19) and consider specifying matters of confidentiality (art. 46, para. 20);
- Consider adopting measures to allow for the transfer of proceedings in the interests of the proper administration of justice (art. 47);
- Use the Convention as legal basis for law enforcement cooperation, further strengthen the effective coordination and promote the exchange of law enforcement personnel (art. 48);

- Consider entering into bilateral, regional or international agreements or arrangements and to strengthen domestic legislation to facilitate direct cooperation between law enforcement agencies, joint investigations and the use of further special investigative techniques at the international level (arts. 48-50).

### 3.4. Technical assistance needs identified to improve implementation of the Convention

- On-site assistance by an anti-corruption expert in the creation of a new or strengthening of the existing department to deal with international cooperation and on coordination between the Central Authority and the Prosecutor General, development of an action plan for implementation and model treaty(ies);
- Summary of good practices and on-site assistance in regard to the transfer of criminal proceedings (art. 47);
- Summary of good practices; technical assistance; and training on forensic accounting in regard to law enforcement cooperation (art. 48);
- Model agreements and arrangements on joint investigations (art. 49);
- Capacity-building assistance with regards to special investigative techniques (art. 50).